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that you assisted me in passing dealt with the issues of truancy and hopefully we have some better methods to address those problems because of that. I want to close to share with you where I will be coming from if I'm elected your Chair and I think about this poem often because, when I was a fourth grade teacher, I had my students memorize it. It's a poem by Langston Hughes and it says: Hold fast to dreams, for when dreams die life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly. Hold fast to dreams, for when dreams go life is a frozen field covered with snow. It's my goal, whether I'm on the Education Committee as Chair or not, to work to see that every Nebraska child, no matter where they live, no matter what their family circumstances, has the opportunity through an excellent education through qualified teachers teaching in their subject areas, through a healthy school atmosphere, through schools that are safe and welcoming atmospheres, to be able to achieve their dreams, and I ask your support for Chairmanship. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Are there other nominations? If not, members, if you could mark your ballots again, and I would like to ask these three senators to act as teller: Senator Bromm, Senator Bourne, and Senator Cudaback. I would remind you, as we have a multiperson race, that if one member does not receive 25 votes the individual receiving the fewest number of votes will drop and we will proceed to a second ballot. As no one received 25 votes, we will proceed to a second ballot--Senator Stuhr and Senator Raikes. Members, if you'll please cast your second ballot for either Senator Stuhr or Senator Raikes. I would like to ask the following three senators to serve as tellers on this ballot: Senator Beutler, Senator Kruse, and Senator Don Pederson. Members, the Chairman of the Education Committee is Senator Raikes. Congratulations, Senator Raikes. We now proceed to General Affairs. Nominations for General Affairs? Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I would like to...for you to consider me and to have my name placed in...in contention for Chairman of the General Affairs Committee. It's been a distinct pleasure for me to serve in this capacity as Chairman of the General Affairs for